



## Herring Pond

EASTHAM

43 Acres

Not To Be Used For Navigational Purposes

X - Maximum Depth = 35 feet



## HERRING POND (Eastham)

### General Information:

This 43-acre natural kettlehole pond has an average depth of 18 feet and a maximum depth of 35 feet. It is both fed and drained by the Herring River, depending on the tides. Transparency is very good, extending to 18 feet, and the bottom is composed primarily of sand. The shoreline is lightly developed.

The pond is located in the middle of Eastham, south of Great Pond and southwest of the Cape Cod National Seashore Visitors Center on Salt Pond. It can be reached from Route 6, heading north, by taking a left onto Samoset Road; left onto Lawton Road, and left onto Herring Brook Road. Access is provided by a town beach on the left next to the outlet for Herring River. It is primarily suited for launching car top boats and canoes.

Fisheries management on Herring Pond dates back to 1920, when it was stocked with 2,000 smallmouth bass fingerlings. It was reclaimed for smallmouth bass management in 1958 and stocked with fingerling and adult smallmouth bass in 1958 and 1959, respectively. From 1961 on, the pond has been annually stocked with trout. In 1980, the pond was again stocked with adult smallmouth bass, but it still does not appear to support a thriving population.

### Fish Populations:

This pond was last surveyed in 1988, at which time nine species were recorded present: pumpkinseed sunfish, golden shiners, yellow perch, chain pickerel, brown bullhead, banded killifish, white perch, brown trout, rainbow trout. A fisheries survey performed by consultants preparing a diagnostic/feasibility study later in the same year also found American eel and alewife.

### Fishing:

Herring Pond is annually stocked in the spring with brook, brown and rainbow trout. It has a reputation for producing some good holdover brown trout fishing. This can be attributed to the excellent forage base in the form of sea-run alewives, which swim up the Herring River from Cape Cod bay to spawn in the pond. The buffering effect of alkaline seawater, which periodically enters from the Herring River, has spared this pond from the acidity characteristic of most of Cape Cod's kettlehole ponds. During high summer, look for the trout in a narrow depth range around 23 feet.

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